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October 3,2002

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12' street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Request for Special Temporary Authority for the Transfer of Control of FCC Authorizations and Licenses by Williams Communications, LLC, Williams Communications Group, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession and WilTel Communications Group, Inc.

## **Dear** Madam Secretary:

On behalf of the official committee (the "Committee") of unsecured creditors appointed by the bankruptcy court in the Chapter 11 proceeding (the Chapter 11 Cases') relating to Williams Communications Group, Inc. ("WCG"), this letter is to express the support of the Committee for the issuance by the Commission of Special Tenporary Authority ("STA") to permit the transfer of control of the FCC authorizations and licenses held by Williams Communications, LLC ("Williams"), from Williams Communications Group, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession ("WCG") to WilTel Communications Group, Inc. ("WilTel"). The requests for STA being submitted to the FCC by Williams have been reviewed and the Committee urges the Commission to grant the requested STA.

The Committee represents approximately 11,000 unsecured creditors of WCG, and it has been intensely involved in the exhaustive negotiations which led to confirmed Plan of Reorganization of WCG (the "Plan"). The Committee believes that the Plan represents the best attainable balance of competing interests. It is critical to the Plan that the reorganization of WCG be effectuated no later than October 15,2002. The Committee is committed to closing the reorganization by October 15, provided that the Commission has issued the requested STA. If no closing occurs by that date, then the Committee will be required to reassess its position and evaluate the actions of other parties at that time. The Committee cannot predict how the unsecured creditors or other parties will exercise their rights, or the implications of such actions for the ability of Williams to provide continuing service to the public. The Committee believes that it is in the public interest to avoid such uncertainty and permit the closing to proceed on

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October 15, subject to the Commission's subsequent **review** of the **pending transfer** of control applications.

Consequently, the Committee respectfully requests that the Commission grant the STA requests of Williams in order to permit the consummation of the Plan on or before October 15, 2002 (and preferably by close of business on October 11 to permit a more orderly and certain closing on October 15).

If any questions arise in connection with this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted, KIRKLAND & ELLIS

Bv:

Richard L. Wynne

Attorneys for the Official Committee

of Unsecured Creditors